Setting up of TV production centre at Aurangabad

2155. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Advisory Board of his Ministry at its recent meeting held at Pune decided to set up a TV production centre at Aurangabad (Maharashtra); and

(b) if so, whether any time schedule has been fixed for the setting up of the said centre at Aurangabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Harassment of some students of film and TV Institute, Pune

2156. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether is is a fact that there is lot of resentment among students of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune on account of alleged harassment by senior students;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken by Government to enforce discipline in the Institute; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) There were a few instances of ragging of junior students by senior students.

(b) When the new academic year started in January, 1994, some senior students indulged in ragging of the juniors on 31st January and 1st February, 1994. As a preventive measure, commencement of the courses of senior students was postponed by one week after the admission of junior students. Suitable security arrangements were also made by the Institute. As a result of these measures, ragging was contained, and 12 senior students were immediately suspended from the hostels. Later, after receiving a firm commitment from the students that such incidents would not recur, they were permitted to return to the hostels. The situation has already returned to normal.

(c) Does not arise.

Operational difficulties in Akashwani Kendra

2157. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Akashwani Kendra inaugurated on 30th December, 1993 is operational;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that due to lack of experienced man power it has turned in-operational, what steps Government propose to take in this regard; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are no permanent employees in the pay roll and no financial aid has been made available during the last five months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. All India Radio Station at Bhawanipatna (Orissa) was commissioned on 30-12-93 and it is operational. Staff have also been posted to Bhawanipatna. Funds to the tune of Rs. 14.28 lakhs have been provided for the year 1993-94.

Representation from cable net-work association

2158. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the Cable Networks Association; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Govern-